(a) whether some studies have been undertaken to find out the cost of production per litre of milk in the country on the pattern of cost of production of various crops being estimated by Commission on Agriculture Costs and Prices;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in negative, whether Government would like to undertake such an exercise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Some studies have been undertaken to evaluate the various components of cost of production of milk viz. feed cost, cost on labour, depreciation of animals, depreciation of assets and equipments etc. These studies were conducted in some selected districts/milkshed areas in a few selected States.

(c) and (d) : Do not arise, in view of reply at (a) and (b) above.

कृषि क्षेत्र में विकास और पूंजी निर्माण

1312. **श्री वीरेन जे० शाह** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 26 मार्च, 1993 के "दि हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स" में "कैपिटल फॉर्मेशन इन एग्रीकल्चर अर्ज" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि देश की आवश्यकता को पूरा करने के लिए सन् 2002 तक 245 मिलियन टन खाद्यान्नों का उत्पादन करना होगा;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि 70 के दशक में देश के कृषि क्षेत्र में पूंजी निर्माण की विकास दर 5.3 प्रतिशत थी और 80 के दशक में यह गिर कर 1.1 प्रतिशत रह गई; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में तथ्य क्या हैं और आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में पूंजी निर्माण की विकास दर हेतु क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अरविंद नेताम) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दस्तावेज में वर्ष 2002 में अपेक्षित खाद्यान्न उत्पादन का स्तर 245 मिलियन मीटरी टन होने का अनुमान लगाया गया है।

(ग) और (घ) 1970 और 1980 के दशकों में कृषि में सकल पूंजी निरूपण की औसत वृद्धि क्रमशः 6.8 प्रतिशत तथा (–) 1.5 प्रतिशत थी। आठवीं योजना के दौरान कृषि क्षेत्र में, सार्वजनिक और निजी दोनों को मिलाकर 1991-92 के मूल्यों के अनुसार कुल 148,800 करोड़ रुपए निवेश करने का प्रस्ताव है।

Traditional Pesticides

1313. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that effort are being made by various extension agencies of your Ministry to stress the importance of traditional pesticides to farmers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that pesticide companies have influenced such extension service agencies to exhort farmers to use modern chemical fertilisers in large quantities; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to educate extension workers for use of traditional pesticides for farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State Agricultural Extension agencies advise farmers on the use of various inputs, including chemical fertilizers, based on recommendations of ICAR Institutes/States Agricultural Universities.

(c) IPM demonstration-cum-training programmes are being conducted to popularise and propogate IPM technology including need based use of pesticides among the State extension functionaries and farmers. Traditional pesticides are required to be used as a last resort under the ambit of Integrated pest Management (IPM) on the basis of Economic Threshold Levels (ETL). To determine ETL rapid roving surveys are undertaken to forewarn the farmers about timely plant protection measures. Efforts have been made to provide safer and selective pesticides even for need based application.

Boosting up of Agricultural Exports

1314. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to invest Rs. 650 crores for infrastructure creation to boost agricultural export;

(b) if so, the details of this proposal; and

(c) what are the projects on which this amount would be spent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (c) The proposal for preparing an Export Enhancement Programme for Horticulture Produce is at a preliminary stage of consideration. The proposal envisages an investment of Rs. 662.56 crores including Government's budgetary support of Rs. 239.50 crores. The investments are proposed to be focussed on development of infrastructural facilities, promotion of export-oriented production and export promotion/market development measures.

Food Production in the Country

1315. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have worked out any strategy to meet the shortage of food production by the turn of the century because the country's population is likely to grow to one billion and will require at least 220 million tons against 175 million tons at present; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) The Government have worked out the following strategy to increase foodgrains production in the country :

(i) Expansion of area under location specific high yield varieties;

(ii) Increased use of quality seeds;